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April 17, 2013

The Honorable Wesley Meredith North Carolina Senate 300 N. Salisbury Street, Room 314 Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

Dear Senator Meredith:

I am writing to ask for your advocacy on an issue of great importance to the City of Fayetteville and its continued success. The City of Fayetteville is in strong opposition of HB 773 due to its detrimental impact on the ability of our city to assist in protecting law-abiding city residents and improve the quality of life within our communities. This bill controls the authority of cities to operate rental inspection programs and eliminates required landlord registrations and fees paid by landlords to support the programs. It also reduces the reach of program enforcement mechanisms.

HB 773 will essentially nullify the city's Rental Action Management Program (RAMP), which has tremendous community support. RAMP was implemented in July 2012 and is a successful collaboration between our code enforcement officials and our police department. Specifically, the program is designed to allow the city to more closely monitor rental properties that are the site of repeated or severe code violations or that are the site of certain criminal acts.

The City of Fayetteville's strategic plan describes the type of community the City Council is working to create, maintain and enhance. As Fayetteville continues to grow and prosper, it is important that we maintain our ability to identify and better manage any negative impacts of residential rental property citywide. The City of Fayetteville requests your support and advocacy in opposing HB 773.

Should you have any questions regarding the city's state legislative agenda and the city's request for opposition of HB 773, please contact Theodore L. Voorhees, City Manager, at (910) 433-1990. We look forward to your response.

Respectfully,

Anthony d. Chavonne Mayor

